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On Feeling Ashamed.

In his speech at Baltimore Mr. Wilson said to the business men: "The only thing I have been ashamed of in America is the fear and trembling of Americans in the presence of foreign competitors." He is to be congratulated warmly upon the fact that as a patriotic citizen his cheeks have reddened only because American business men, to his eyes, have been inclined, in the realm of commerce, to show the white feather.

But there are millions of Americans who, during the past three years, have found more than one cause for a burning sense of shame. The "fear and trembling" of the Administration in the presence of foreign competitors have forced the people of this country into a condition of humiliation that President Wilson, fortunately for his peace of mind, does not share with them. He rebukes our business men for compelling him to feel ashamed of America for exhibiting commercial poltroonery, for cravenly surrendering our inalienable rights under international usage to our enterprising foreign rivals. Can it be possible that the President, in bringing this charge against our captains of commerce, was exhibiting playfully a streak of grim humor in his makeup that has been hitherto concealed?

Has he felt no shame for "the fear and trembling" that have afflicted Americans obliged of late years to travel upon the high seas?

Have "the fear and trembling" that have preceded the cruel fate that has overtaken American men, women and children in Mexico brought no sense of humiliation to him?

"The fear and trembling of Americans," whether exhibited by business men in the presence of foreign competitors, by the inhabitants of our undefended coast cities or by American sojourners or tourists in foreign countries, are recent manifestations of a national apprehensiveness that may well arouse a feeling of interest upon the part of the Administration. For the first time in our history as a nation Americans have been forced so often to blush for their country's pitiful weakness and lack of dignity in the eyes of the world that their cheeks will become permanently red unless the expected happens at the polls in November.

Combes and Thiepvail.

The perfect cooperation of the French and British south and north of the strongly fortified position of Combes has resulted in the capture of that place and of Thiepvail by the allied forces. Upward of thirty-five so-called villages have been carried in the offensive that began in July. The Germans had been in possession of them nearly two years, and most of them were strategically important. Such villages as Combes, dominating a district, had been elaborately fortified by underground cement works, from which it was impossible to drive the occupants by artillery fire. It could be done only by charging infantry that was well supplied with bombs.

Trenches flush with the ground can be shattered by artillery, and infantry can then go in and finish the business; but to take an underground Gibraltar like Combes of the crossroads, which has been called the key to Peronne (the objective of the present offensive), positions to the north, south and east must be seized before success is assured. Thus prevails to the capture of Combes the British carried Ginchy and Morval on the northwest and northeast and the French forced their way to Freignourt on the east, cutting the road to Salntel. Thereupon the British rushed Combes, and the bombing of the underground works began. The capture of Combes by the nutcracker method is only less important than would be the taking of Peronne, six miles to the south.

The "Big Push," as Tommy Atkins calls the offensive on the Somme, makes slow progress measured by the mile. But when a place like Combes, with its one narrow gauge road and converging high roads, falls we may be sure that the German General Staff knows what the gains means. Was it a month ago that Contalmaison fell into the hands of the British? Contalmaison is only eight miles west of Combes. The exact time doesn't matter. What does matter is that Combes is so much nearer the Belgian frontier, so much nearer Maubeuge and Mons of painful memory but of

those days when the French and British were outnumbered and inferior in artillery of all kinds, especially machine guns. Presently, if General Joffre's plans work out right, Peronne will be under the French flag once more. Perhaps fifty miles away, as the crow flies, is the frontier of Belgium. Between are many battlefields on which the Allies were worsted early in the war. Peronne is a railway centre and strategically of considerable value. But Peronne will resist the nutcrackers stoutly. The loss of it by the Germans would be a severe blow to their prestige, which in the west has had some hard knocks of late. Slowly as the "Big Push" moves the lesser objectives merge into the great objective. The plan is intricate and the execution of it requires iron resolution that disregards sacrifices. It is only a dull intelligence that does not see that if the gains continue the Germans will have to shorten their line or it will break.

When the Chemists Come to Town.

To the chemists assembled in their second annual meeting for the double purpose of exhibiting to the multitude the wonders of their science and of comparing notes on the past year's achievements and the works of the years to follow, New York extends a greeting whose hospitality blends with common politeness an especially live and practical interest in the progress of that science. The exposition at the Grand Central Palace will not fall of appreciation, even critical appreciation, for New Yorkers are not dulled but stimulated by the marvels of modern industry that pass before their eyes in endless procession.

The war in Europe has been, compensatorily, a source of popular education in many departments. While the greatest performances of the chemists of the belligerent nations have yet to be introduced to the common knowledge, enough has been told to stir the imagination and give directing determination to curiosity. Interest in the studies, discoveries and inventions of scientists has been aroused to such a degree that every intelligent person desires detailed information of the new things in the arts, crafts and industries.

The chemists tell us that the self-reliance imposed upon us by the war's blocking of old channels of supply has carried us in two years through the normal growth of twenty. Why should we depend on Europe? Are not the physical and mental resources of this country and its people equal to those of any other? If we have not the materials heretofore considered necessary, we expect our chemists to invent new methods to fit the qualities of available materials to the same useful end.

California Abandoned.

AS THE SUN has always taken a lively interest in the efforts of the common people's greatest friend to keep body and soul together and a roof over his head, it prints here, free of charge, a real estate advertisement, copied from the *Commoner*:

"SAN DIEGO PROPERTY"

"FOR SALE OR TRADE"

"I have three eligible residence lots in San Diego, California, which I desire to sell. Or I will trade them for real estate of equal value near Lincoln, Nebraska, Miami, Florida, or Asheville, North Carolina."

"For terms and price apply to"

"W. J. BRYAN, LINCOLN, NEBR."

Struggler WILLIAM SO rarely gives up anything—secrets to DUMBA and \$1,000 to WILSON's campaign fund are the only things he has parted with in recent years—that the relinquishing of his California holdings comes as a shock. It is evident that his plan of life has to be changed, and this is sad because it was the ideal plan for every poor man: a self-supporting farm home, a winter place in Florida, a chalet in the mountains, a California rose garden for a change, and a Washington house not too far from the Treasury Department. Mr. BRYAN gave up the Washington house in Calumet place a little more than a year ago when the Treasury stopped paying him \$12,000 a year for making a laughing matter of the State Department. After that, if memory serves, he lolled in North Carolina and in Florida between Chautauque and learned to love both States.

Perhaps it will pain him to trade off the San Diego lots—unless it's a bargain—but he and California were not made for each other. In the three elections when he ran for President California cast a total of twenty-eight electoral votes and gave one of these to him. The State does not understand the beautiful character of the man who has kept the crown of thorns off the brow of labor with no profit to himself except perhaps \$50,000 a year and one short, clownish period in the Cabinet.

BRYAN is narrowing down, if he is to be content with two or three physical homes. It must be remembered, though, that he also lives in the Hearts of the People and the Coked Hat.

In which material home will he place the desk which he carried away from the office of the Secretary of State in July, 1915?

The Aloneness of Maggie.

The efforts of the Government have availed to induce the red man to abandon the old, picturesque individual names and adopt the names, both pre and cog, of the paleface. A list printed in the *Carlisle Arrow* of students enrolled at the great Indian school this fall shows how sadly successful the reformers have been. Of eighty names less than a dozen indicate that the possessor comes from a good old scalping family. The new

names are pretty and perhaps they are art, but they carry no memories. Who could guess that the first on the list, CECIL BAYANT, came of Siouan stock and not of Puritan blood? GEORGE DENNISON, PHILIP MOORE, JOHN RUSSELL, WILLIE SANDERVILLE, ROBERT BLAKE—these are more the names of English yeoman than of grandsons of WOLF-THAT-LOOKS-BACK or YOUNG-MAN-APRAID-OF-HIS-HOUSES. It is a relief to find, in the list of young Blackfeet, JOSEPH BEACHEYER, and again in the Sioux roster JOSEPH KILLSKEMY. The Joseph seems to soften the rest of it, though, and these combinations are almost as mild as HENRY RICHARD of the same class. Then there is a NIGHTPINE on the roll, and you can almost fancy him in the council house, passing the nicotineated snow bowl from chief to chief: but you look for his first name and it is CLARENCE. That would never have done for Cooper. It is impossible to imagine the last of the Mohicans laughing in the faces of the hellish Mohawk if his name had been CLARENCE instead of UNCAS.

The Names of the Girls at Carlisle.

The names of the girls at Carlisle are more interesting than the boys' names. True, there are ISABELLE JOHANNES and ELSIE HILLS, but here are also GRACE SWAMP and KATIE FOX, and the KETTLE girls, LENA and CORA. These are Senecas. Also MARY MADPELME, which suggests the eagle feather and the red tail. And one, just one, brings us back to the golden age of the agnomens: MAGGIE COMEN-AT-NIGHT. She is the only girl, of all these unhyphenated Americans, who clings to the hyphenated, expressive and delightful old style of her forefathers.

Giants of To-day and a Giant of Yesterday.

The author of "Cudjo's Cave" and of some good old fashioned verse which the older boys remember with affection uttered this bit of wisdom:

"It doesn't take
A man of giant mould to make
A giant shadow on the wall."

But giants make bigger shadows than men of pygmy mould, and JOHN JOSEPH MCGRAW'S Giants are just now cutting a large hole in the sunset light of the 1916 baseball season. Having gracefully yielded to Brooklyn the privilege of representing Greater New York in the world's championship series, they have been working with another season in view when they may get a better start.

For this year they have been satisfied to confine their efforts to the making of a new record in games won consecutively without the interruption of a defeat. On Monday they tied the record, twenty games, by winning the first half of a double header, and passed it by adding the second to the list of victories. Scores of 3-2 against Cincinnati, 4-3 and 1-1 (unfinished) against Pittsburg, and 1-0 against St. Louis in the twentieth match of the exciting series show how finely drawn the issue has been.

Thirty-two years the major league record stood—if figures are honest and so great an interval truly separates us from the well remembered campaign of conquest by the Providence team. Would the players of that bygone day be at home in the game of 1916? An easier question to answer is this: Where is the man who still equal CHARLEY RAMBOURNE's feat of pitching eighteen games in a record making series of victories? He is not on earth to-day, and we shall need to be Methuselahs if we are to wait for his coming.

Good Days Coming for the Deer Hunter.

Deer hunters in the Empire State will have an extra day to pursue bucks this season by reason of a wise provision of the game laws which states that when the first day of the open season falls on Sunday the season shall be deemed to begin on the preceding Saturday. A statute such as this makes for additional respect for the game laws.

Old hunters still recollect when there were no game laws in the State of New York which were enforced. As a result market hunters, lumber camps and wolves almost exterminated one of the finest trophies of the woods. Making it harder for the market hunter to kill indiscriminately and as many as fell before his gun; prosecuting owners of lumber camps who employed gunners to furnish them meat cheaply; putting upon the statute books laws limiting the kill for each individual hunter, all helped in their way to preserve our one big game animal, with the exception of the bear. Moose no longer roam the Adirondacks, but doubtless some day hunters may find the elk restored to give them a holiday in the woods in autumn or winter.

Sportsmanlike methods, no killing of deer in August, no following of deer with the aid of dogs, all of these laws were much opposed when first introduced. Native hunters insisted they could not get deer without dogs, but when they learned how to still hunt the "most unpopular law" found no more complaints made against it.

And so it has been with the buck law. This is the fourth year of New York's buck law and the prejudice against it is dying down rapidly. The buck law is based on common sense principles that obtain on every well conducted farm and it safeguards human life in the hunting field.

Of the forty-eight States and the District of Columbia, thirty-six of which have an open season for deer this year, seventeen insist that the buck principle may be seen from a list of buck law States, which include,

in addition to New York, Vermont, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Missouri, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

This year all of Oneida, Lewis and Jefferson counties will be thrown open to deer hunters. For years deer were protected in all that portion of the three counties lying to the west of the Utica and Black River railroad from Utica to Ogdensburg. Protection no longer being considered necessary, the deer hunter reaps his reward of patient waiting. Now the deer are in such numbers that an open season will not exterminate the stock. Common sense game laws always contribute to their own enforcement.

The citizen who pays \$1.10 for a license to shoot has much pleasure to look forward to on his outing in the woods, and the prospects are promising for a trophy; for deer have not been so abundant in many years as at present, according to those who have been in the woods this summer and early autumn.

Know what you aim at, hunter, and let there be no tales this season of men being killed or injured because they were "mistaken for deer."

Governor Whitman and the Threatened Strikes.

Nobody who knows Governor WHITMAN will expect him to convoke the State Legislature in special session to pass laws dealing with the strike situation in this city while it remains in its present status.

MR. WHITMAN is not an executive who can be intimidated either by the threats of pistol pointing labor leaders or the political intrigues of Democratic Assemblymen. He is not an executive who rejects arbitration for favor of his own intermeddling, nor a man who seeks to make political capital by personal interference in industrial disputes.

MR. WHITMAN does not write notes or issue pronouncements conferring on his private predilections the sanction of Society. But if there is public disorder in the conduct of the present or subsequent strikes in this city, disorder that cannot effectively be handled by the New York police, he may be depended on to do his duty.

All that the Republican campaign managers desire is that Wilson and DANIELS shall continue to make speeches.

The official returns show that in the primary of the American Party WHITMAN was victorious over SEABURY by a vote, State wide, of 25 to 37. The odds were somewhat against him, but he was cast by Citizen WILLIAM SUTHER.

I feel that we should divert ourselves of the consciousness that we are in the midst of a political campaign—President Wilson's election is a fact.

As easy a stunt as maintaining absolute mental neutrality.

The Administration calls it American prosperity when a condition prevails here caused by an abnormally high cost of living in this country and an abnormally high rate of living in Europe.

The theatres this season again respond to the music of the house orchestra instead of the acts. Only a few years ago, when there was nothing but the conversation of the audience to occupy the interval, music has been one of the most successful elements of the cinema theatres. Evidently the theatre managers decided to avail themselves of this attraction of their rivals. Yet there were always many spectators in a playhouse who took pleasure in the concert between the acts, however inappropriate the music might be to the play or however imperfectly it might be rendered. Managers have generally recognized the mistake of depriving their audiences of any means of entertainment.

American commercial travellers needn't worry because the President shook his fist at them. He'll presently shake that awful finger of his at their foreign competitors, and then the score will be even.

A few years ago American business men took up their morning papers with some degree of nervousness to see what the Government was doing to them. I ask you if you take up the morning paper now with any degree of nervousness—President Wilson to the grain dealers.

The thought of the nearness of November 7 has acted lately as a powerful sedative.

Congressman FRANK E. DOREMUS of Michigan admits that the Democrats will lose "a few Congress seats," but adds: "The odds are against them, but after all, it is only a human election." So long as they are divinely elected the defeated Democrats should not care.

The Captain of the Team.

A Watchful Waiting Democrat has had his turn up at the bat. He missed the ball and lost the bat. And soon he'll have "Three strikes, you're out."

Eighty Cent Gas Case.

Mr. Wilson's Citation of It in the Eight Hour Law Controversy Abund.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The reference by the President in his address at Shadow Lawn to the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Eighty Cent Gas Case as justifying his attitude toward the railroads was an extremely specious form of argument. In that case the court found that the company was earning 5 1/2 per cent. on the value of its property, which was within 1-3 per cent. of the non-consumers' story 6 per cent. return, and decided that this was within the permissible zone of uncertainty, either in respect of the value of the company's property or the probable stimulation of business under the new rate, or both, and directed a trial of the rate.

The effect upon the expenses of the railroad companies of conceding the decrease in rate would be easily and accurately computed by any schoolboy. It amounts to an increase of 27 1/2 per cent. in their wages. Their aggregate annual wages being known, the amount of the additional annual expense to the railroads could be computed to a penny; in other words, the effect of granting the employees' demands was in no sense a matter of conjecture, as the President saw fit to consider it.

If a man is working on piece work a reduction in the number of hours he may work will not necessarily impair his earnings proportionately. By speeding up and increasing his output he could reduce his loss due to the reduction in his hours of labor. His incentive to this would be obvious.

A sufficient number of the coal and iron employees were captured in the sea near the mouth of the Aras River and taken in tank boats through river and canal to Tebriz on the Black Sea and thence along its shore to Constantinople, where they were transferred to specially constructed tank cars and despatched by the celebrated "Hankow" or Berlin-Constantinople Express, and by now must have arrived safely at Bremen and been installed aboard the famous submarine, made ready by the removal of the old engine and boiler equipment.

The advantage of the electric method will be the great saving in weight and in consumption of coal, oil, compressed air and oxygen. The details of the power attachment, as figured out by the great German engineer, Professor Knyphausen, are about as follows: A copper tank will be installed in which the coils will be placed and a copper wire will be fastened around the neck of each fish, just behind the ears, which will be connected directly with the motor and screw. The food of the eels to keep them charged with electricity will be the marine algae abundant in the Caspian, which is highly impregnated with electricity absorbed from the magnetic force about its shores, which will be developed and sustained in life trying to find out how the freely produced light without heat, so far, has been the despair of all scientists.

By the same boats and trains from the Caspian comes about a thousand tons of animal rubber, which is simply the end of the eel's story. It is a very valuable substance about the size of a hen's egg, which is the utilization of what has been considered a waste product, as the millions of sturgeons in the Volga River and Caspian Sea have been caught simply for their roe.

FITZ NOLK.

New York, September 25.

POTASH AND POTATOES.

A Report That is Highly Interesting to American Farmers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The report printed in THE SUN of September 23 that immense deposits of potash had been discovered in Cuba is highly interesting. The action of the Washington Government in ordering an investigation of the physical and chemical composition of the deposits, which will be a valuable element in fertilizer, has as is well known, been almost cut off by the European war. A fertilizer containing 10 per cent. of potash has been thought necessary in raising potatoes.

This year it was impossible to obtain anything like the quantity of fertilizer being the best that could be had, and that only at almost prohibitive prices. Owing, however, largely to favorable weather conditions great crops of potatoes have been raised in this State, at least, with little or no potash, except that already in the soil. Had the season been dry the yield in all probability would have been small.

There seems no likelihood of an early end of the war, with a resumption of exports from Germany. The discovery therefore of potash beds as near home as Cuba is of far greater value to American farmers than gold or diamond mines.

E. A. FLETCHER.

JAMESBURG, N. J., September 25.

A Former Brotherhood Chief's Question to the President.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In a speech delivered at Baltimore yesterday before the National Grain Dealers convention President Wilson said:

"The first thing brains have to feed upon is knowledge."

Good! Glorious! Now, if this modern Daniel will kindly feed our brains on the knowledge: how American industrial producers can cheapen the cost of their products, so as to capture the markets of the world, without reducing the high American wages, thus curtailing home consumption, consequently home production, he will confer a blessing on the whole business community of the United States.

Formerly Chief Engineer, Central Division, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

RAYMOND, N. J., September 25.

The Issue of Personal Sincerity.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: When Hamlet was asked by Polonius what he was reading, he answered: "Words, words, words."

So might he be charged the attempt of the President at Long Branch to reply to the splendid speech of Hughes at Springfield on the force bill. Those two speeches do more than show how much can be said against that bill, and how little for it. They illustrate the courage and sincerity of one candidate and the timidity of the other. The vast majority of mankind refuses to adopt this rule of action, believing it to be founded on a fallacy. And Mr. Wilson belongs to this majority himself.

There was once a song much sung around circus tents the refrain of which was something like this:

We are learning more and more about Mr. Wilson all the time. D. A. C.

New York, September 26.

Submarine Power.

A More or Less Authentic Report of New Undersea Boats.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: From time to time since the war began I have received, from an old friend, a classmate at Gottingen University, who holds a high position in the German Government, advance information regarding military matters. I know all about the despatch of the Deutschland and when she would probably arrive here, but was not permitted to divulge the fact; but now that she has safely completed the round trip, and it is a matter of general knowledge that she will soon make another voyage, I am permitted to tell about her new method of propulsion, power produced by electric eels.

It has been known from the most ancient times that the Caspian Sea is the natural habitat of this myonotous fish, and Polybius tells us that when Alexander attempted to ford the Volga at the northern end of the Caspian, he was attacked by them in thousands of them. Again, the great traveler Marco Polo tells us that while visiting Astrakhan in the thirteenth century he was especially warned about bathing in the salt water of the sea as the eels were especially fond of human flesh.

This Caspian eel is in weight and size much like the English conger eel, and is from five to ten feet long, weighing from ten to thirty pounds. The amount of electric energy given off by each varies from 150 to 250 kilowatts of very high voltage, one horse-power being equal to about 750 kilowatts.

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THE MANUAL TRAINING OF DISABLED AND MUTILATED SOLDIERS.

Can Science Remedy Social and Economic Losses in War?

As a suggestion in chiaroscuro of the value of arts and crafts this war is rich in fine examples taken from the tragic experiences of the actors. Surgeons who have seen the battlefields and hospitals of Europe dwell upon the stupendous problems of caring for the men disabled and mutilated by modern shot and explosives. How are these men to be trained for work? Can a man who has lost his right hand be taught to use the left? Should he learn a new trade or cultivate the old one with his left hand? Can men blinded by explosives be taught to use their fingers in drawing or in such unions of brain and fingers as music and typewriting?

These problems were discussed at a recent meeting of the French Academy of Sciences. Obviously both technical and social issues are here in question. In the first place the normal and working life of artisans and professional men has, of necessity, given way to military duty. Though we assume that most of them will be taken back into the industrial life of the nation, others will be permanently or partially incapacitated for one cause or another. In addition to the loss of limbs and of eyes, the war has caused a large number of men from civil employments, which cannot fail to produce its effect in the future, there will be a shortage of sound men caused by the war. The loss of millions in a war which is not merely destructive of limb but